

We welcome you...

*We are pleased that you have chosen
to be with us this evening
as we celebrate the joy of Christmas.*

Our Christmas hymns...

While we treasure the language and imagery of the New Century Hymnal, we know that the words we learned as children are precious to us as well. We invite you to sing the Christmas hymns with whatever words are most familiar and beloved for you.

Please join us again...

Tonight at 11:00pm we will gather for a candle light worship.

Each Sunday morning we gather for worship at 8:30am and 11:00am.

Church School begins again on January 10 at 9:45am.

Offering credit and gratitude...

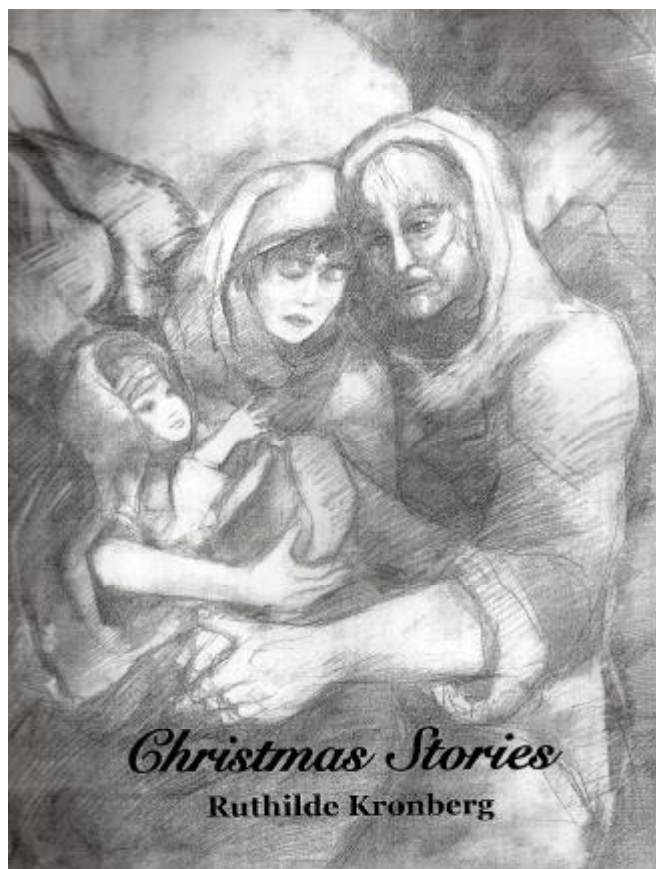
The cover piece for Ruthilde Kronberg's "Christmas Stories" is an original work by Michael Kronberg entitled "Holy Family".

The Call to Gather and Blessing were written for EUCC in 1997 by poet Kate McCann when she was our Student Pastor.

EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
204 EAST LOCKWOOD AVENUE
WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI
WWW.EVANGELICALUCC.ORG

Christmas Eve 5:30pm 24 December 2009

Following the God made known
in the life and teachings of Jesus...



GATHERING UNDER THE STARS

WELCOME

HYMN 134 "Silent Night, Holy Night" Stille Nacht

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright;
'Round yon virgin mother and Child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia:
Christ, the Savior, is born,
Christ, the Savior, is born!"

CALL TO GATHER

HYMN 134 "Silent Night, Holy Night" Stille Nacht

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

*As the Youth Band plays, all children
who would like to participate in the pageant
are invited to assemble in the Narthex.*

ANTHEM "Changed" Taylor Swift
Youth Band

THE PAGEANT

HYMN 124 "Away in Manger" Away in a Manger

*As we sing, all of the children are invited
(those who participated in the Pageant and those not)
to come sit on the Chancel Steps (parents welcome) to
hear the telling of "The Christmas Quilt".*

Away in a manger,
no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky
looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,
look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
til morning is nigh.

STORY "The Christmas Quilt" Ruthilde Kronberg
Lisa Von Stamwitz, Storyteller

HYMN 148 "What Child Is This" Greensleeves

*As we sing, the children are invited
to return to sit with their families.*

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this, the angels sing,
is Christ, God's holy offering;
Haste, haste your praise to bring
the babe, the child of Mary!

Bring gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, join in jubilation;
The Holy Child, though meek and mild,
has come with God's salvation.

Raise, raise the song on high,
the mother sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the child of Mary!

SHARING OUR GIFTS

*The congregation is invited to share gifts
for our shared ministry.*

OFFERTORY "Arise, Shine" Bailey, Mayo
Children's Choir

BLESSING

*HYMN 125 "Angels We Have Heard on High" Gloria

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee,
God, our world now entering.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE